

Bossier Parish



“Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community”

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	Bossier	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	13.7%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	19.4%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	5.6%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$6,231	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	94.4%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	5.0%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	8.4	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care w ithin first 3 months	86.3%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	80.1%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	9.8%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	12.6%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	8.1	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	502.5	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	268.5	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	7.2*	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	210.6	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	204.6	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	51.9	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	27.0	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	27.0	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	51.9	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	12.1	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	1.1	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 7	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	22.0%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI>30 (adults 20+)	27.7%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram w ithin 2 years (women 40+)	70.8%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear w ithin 3 years (women 18+)	82.7%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	68.3%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA= Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EM S/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1, 2}

Bossier Parish was carved out of the great Natchitoches District on February 24, 1843. It was named after Pierre Evariste Bossier, a descendent of an early settler and a member of Congress when the parish was formed. Located in the rich valley of the Red River, the parish has long been known for its agricultural production. Barksdale Air Force Base, located in part within the city limits of Bossier City, has been a major factor in the growth of the parish.



Steeped with southern tradition coupled with modern progressiveness, Bossier and Caddo Parishes offer a variety of attractions, festivals, nationally-acclaimed sporting events, art galleries and museums. Linked together by the nation’s largest neon-lit bridge, Shreveport and Bossier City offer abundant shopping, accommodations and specialty foods. Louisiana Downs and riverboat casinos offer adult entertainment, while children of all ages can enjoy a trip to Hamel’s Amusement Park and Water Town U.S.A. Or enjoy a leisurely stroll through the Gardens of the American Rose Center and the Barnwell Garden and Art Center. The area is surrounded by tranquil lakes and over 3,000 acres of landscaped parks. Bossier and Caddo Parishes are culture-filled with a metropolitan ballet company, opera, symphony, art galleries, theater and museums.

Parish Seat³ Benton

Major Cities (population over 5,000)

- Bossier City

Parish Population⁴

2000.....	98,310
2003 (estimate)	101,999
2000 Population by Race	
White.....	74.7%
African-American	20.8%
Some other race.....	4.5%
Hispanic of Latino (of any race)	3.1%
2000 Population by Age	
Under 5 years	7.6%
5-14	15.7%
15-17	4.7%
18-19	2.9%
20-24	6.9%
25-64	51.8%
65 & over	10.4%

Geography and Statistics⁵

Average elevation	215ft.
Land area in square miles	839
Water area in square miles	28.5

Climate

Average temperatures	
Annual.....	66°
January	49°
July.....	81°
Annual average rainfall.....	47 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁶

Bossier Parish	
Civilian.....	47,911
Employed	45,337
Unemployed.....	2,574
Unemployment.....	5.4%
Louisiana	
Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Bossier Parish Community College
- Centenary College
- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Shreveport
- Southern University and A&M College, Shreveport

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information
<<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary
<http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.